

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 FEA-01 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FPC-01 H-01 INR-07

INT-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-03 SAM-01 OES-03

SP-02 SS-15 STR-01 TRSE-00 FRB-03 ACDA-05 IO-10 NEA-09

NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 /105 R

DRAFTED BY EA/EP:AGEBER

APPROVED BY E:RPOATS

E - CROBINSON (SUBS.)

E - RPOATS

S/P - KAHAN

EA - EDMUND

S/S-O: P. SHANKLE

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 046564

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: TECH, JA, USIRJC

SUBJECT: IRANIAN PARTICIPATION IN UEA

REF: TOKYO 1157

1. IRANIAN GOVERNMENT IS PREPARED TO SIGN IN WASHINGTON AT TIME OF JOINT COMMISSION MEETING MARCH 3-4 LETTER OF INTENT WITH BECHTEL TO PARTICIPATE UP TO 30 PERCENT IN FINANCING OF UEA ENRICHMENT PLANT WITH EQUIVALENT SHARE OF FUEL PRODUCED. ALTHOUGH UNLIKELY THAT USG WILL BE PREPARED TO ENDORSE SUCH HIGH PARTICIPATION BY IRAN BY TIME OF MONDAY MEETING, WE MAY HAVE TO BE PREPARED TO INDICATE TO IRANIANS DIRECTION OF OUR THINKING.

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2. AN IMPORTANT CONSIDERATION FOR USG IS GOJ REACTION TO LEVEL OF IRANIAN PARTICIPATION IN FINANCING AND PRODUCT ALLOCATION IN LIGHT OF ORIGINAL JAPANESE PARTNERSHIP IN UEA PROJECT AND BROADER US COMMITMENT TO US-GOJ COOPERATION IN ENERGY AND ENRICHED URANIUM SUPPLY.

3. WE REALIZE THAT GOJ IS CONSIDERING JAPANESE PARTICIPATION IN LIGHT OF SEVERAL DEVELOPMENTS, INCLUDING MULTINATIONAL ASPECT OF UEA PROJECT, AND THAT GOJ HAS INDICATED THAT IT MAY TAKE SEVERAL MONTHS TO COME TO A CONCLUSION. NEVERTHELESS WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY'S EXPLORING URGENTLY WITH GOJ THEIR PRELIMINARY REACTION TO PROPOSED LEVEL OF IRANIAN PARTICIPATION. WOULD LIKE TO KNOW WHETHER 30 PERCENT IRANIAN PARTICIPATION WOULD ENCOURAGE JAPANESE PARTICIPATION IN UEA OR RATHER TURN THEM OFF. ALSO WOULD LIKE TO KNOW WHETHER LIMITING IRANIAN PARTICIPATION TO A LOWER LEVEL, LET US SAY, 20 PERCENT OR LESS WOULD BE PREFERRED BY GOJ. (NOTE THAT BECHTEL HAS URGED LARGE IRANIAN COMMITMENT IN ORDER TO CATALYZE FINANCIAL DECISIONS BY OTHER POTENTIAL

PARTICIPANTS AND BRING TARGET WITHIN REACH.) INFORMAL COMMENTS BY GOJ AND EMBASSY'S ASSESSMENT ON IMPACT OF IRANIAN PARTICIPATION AT PROPOSED LEVEL OF US-GOJ ENERGY COOPERATION WOULD BE WELCOME.

4. REQUEST EMBASSY REPLY BY 9 A.M. WASHINGTON TIME
MARCH 3. KISSINGER

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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